



**Diamantina Shire
Local Disaster Management Plan
2024-2025**

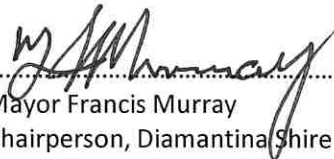


Acknowledgement of Country

Diamantina Shire Council acknowledges the Wangkamahdla, Pitta Pitta, Mithaka, Wangkangurru/Yarluyandi and Maiawali people as the Traditional Owners of this land. We pay our respects to their cultures, their ancestors and their Elders, past, present and all future generations.


Approval of executive members

This plan is endorsed by the Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group.


.....
Mayor Francis Murray
Chairperson, Diamantina Shire Local Disaster Management
Group

Date: 19/8/24

This plan has been agreed to and accepted by the Diamantina Shire Council through resolution.
This plan was approved by the Diamantina Shire Council on 16 August 2024.


.....
Lorelle Hatch
Director Corporate Services, Diamantina Shire Council
And Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator, Diamantina Shire

Date 19/8/24

Amendment Register and Version Control

This plan must reflect the changes in the Diamantina community; as such it will undergo changes as the community and shire develops over time.

Changes to this plan are to be submitted to the CEO of the Diamantina Shire and to the Local Disaster Management Group for inclusion in the plan.

The Diamantina Shire CEO is authorised to make administrative changes to the plan without the need to have the plan endorsed.

Glossary of Terms

A Disaster Management [glossary of terms and acronyms](#) is published as part of the Prevention Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PPRR) Disaster Management Guideline.
 A [Disaster Management Lexicon](#) is also provided by the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM).

The following acronyms are not contained in the links above but are used by the Local Disaster Management Group in its disaster management arrangements.

Acronym	Meaning
AIDR	Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
CDO	Counter Disaster Operations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DRFA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (formerly known as NDRRA)
DSC	Diamantina Shire Council
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
IGEM	Inspector-General Emergency Management
IMT	Incident Management Team
LGA	Local Government Area
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
QDMA	Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements
RFB	Rural Fire Brigade– QFD
RFS	Rural Fire Service – QFD
SMEACS	Situation, Mission, Execution, Administration, Coordination, Safety
WHO	World Health Organisation
XO	Executive Officer, District Disaster Management Group

ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

Local Disaster Management Chair foreword

The Diamantina Shire is not immune to natural disasters, whilst these types of events are not common we cannot afford to become complacent. The key to effective disaster response and recovery is the resilience of the community and the willingness of people to work together for the benefit of the community.



The Diamantina Shire, through the work of its Local Disaster Management Group will maintain its commitment to effective disaster management for the Shire. To be effective our disaster management planning must be a moving feast, we learn from events in the shire and we examine the actions of other shires to ensure that we improve and adapt to changes such as the expectations of the community and climate change.

This plan is for the community. To be truly effective we must draw on the collective knowledge of the community to develop a plan that is suitable and effective.

The purpose of the Diamantina Shire Local Disaster Management Plan is to address the disaster management needs of the Diamantina Shire.

This will be achieved by:

- Ensuring that community risks related to events are effectively managed;
- Ensuring that risks requiring District level support are identified and communicated to the District Level;
- Ensuring that Local Government and Local Groups comply with their disaster management obligations under the Disaster Management Act 2003; and
- Other purposes related to disaster management the Local Government determines.

The plan ensures that community risks relating to disaster events, or events that affect the wellbeing of the community are identified and effectively managed. The plan is to detail the arrangements and responsibilities between response agencies, supporting government and non-government organisations.

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Amendment Register:

Amendment Number	Date	Section Amended	Amended By
1	7 May 2014	1.6 (typo), 1.7 (date and signature), 1.122 Typo, 2.0 Change Annexure to Section 1.4, 3.1 various updates	CEO/Executive Assistant
2	2 Jun 2014	Added Local Levels of Activation for Recovery Arrangements in Section 6	CEO/Executive Assistant
3	21 Jan 2015	Page 32 – Electricity Grid – change from connected to National Grid to Isolated and Remote Power Stations. Page 57 – Section 5 Response Strategy – replace Julia Creek Township with Bedourie and Birdsville townships. Page 77 – Section 10 LDMG Sub Plans - Remove reference to Resupply sub plan	Executive Assistant
4	18 July 2016	Post Council Election review Page 21 – Update distribution and availability of plan to replace Cr Garth Tully with Cr Steve Cramer. Page 28 – Update Core Group and Advisors group to remove Inconsistencies.	Executive Assistant
5	27 July 2017	Update membership Meeting section Roles and Responsibilities Definitions Membership Update ABS data Training	ED
6	3 August 2018	Update and review	ED
7	14 Feb 2020	Update Roles, Terminology, EMAF	ED
4	19 Mar 2020	Replace tables in 3.2 Hazards with new tables	GEM
5	1 Dec 2022	Updating of details, e.g. year and name of mayor	EA
6	July 2024	Update administrative details and alignment with current guidelines	ED-LH

Version Control:

Version	Date	Date accepted by LDMG
1	23 June 2013	23 June 2013
2	21 July 2014	21 July 2014
3	16 February 2015	16 February 2015
4	18 July 2016	4 August 2016
5	14 February 2020	14 February 2020
6	19 March 2020	19 March 2020
7	19 August 2024	16 August 2024

Review process

This Local Disaster Management Plan will be reviewed every 12 months by the members of the LDMG, that plan will also be reviewed under the following circumstances:

- Following activation of the LDMG in response to an event;
- Following significant changes to the planning environment including changes in threats or the community;
- In response to changes in the planning guidelines; or
- In any other circumstance that the Chair believes a review is warranted.

Statement of establishment / authority to plan

The Disaster Management Act 2003 (the Act) and the Disaster Management Regulation 2014 (the Regulation) forms the legislative basis for disaster management within all levels of government and Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA).

The preparation of this LDMP and all associated Sub Plans has been undertaken in accordance with sections 57 and 58 of the Act, to provide for effective disaster management in the Diamantina Shire area. This LDMP is consistent with Queensland's Disaster Management Standard and PPRR Disaster Management Guideline.

The authorising environment for disaster management documents is detailed in Figure 1 below.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE AUTHORISING ENVIRONMENT

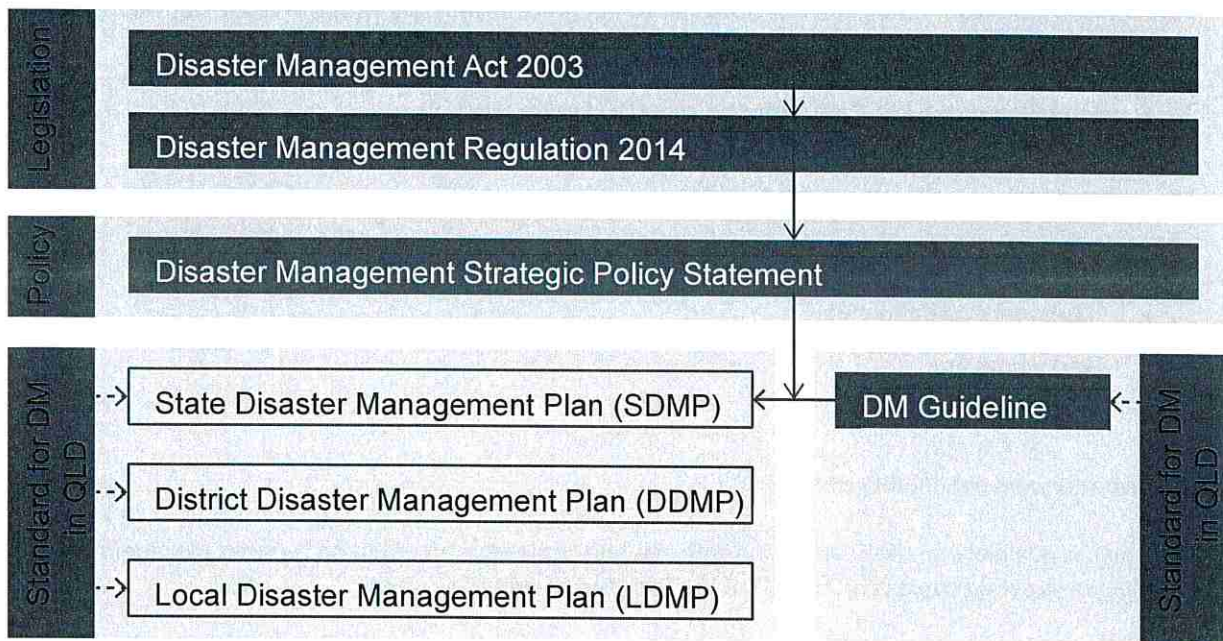


Figure 1: Disaster Management Authorising Environment

STRUCTURE OF DIASTER MANAGEMENT PLANS

Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP)

The LDMP is an overarching document that details the structure, management arrangements and governance provisions which underpin the process of disaster management in the Diamantina Shire area. It provides an overview of the arrangements in place for dealing with disasters and sets out the role of the LDMG and the community from the initial notification through the various stages of response and recovery until the disaster event is finalised. The LDMP is designed to be flexible so it can be adapted to any disaster event affecting the region to ensure an integrated, coordinated, and timely response.

LDMP Sub Plans

The LDMP is complemented by a number of Sub Plans which are designed to expand on information contained in the LDMP by providing detailed information for the activation and operation of key functional capabilities. Sub Plans are designed to integrate seamlessly with the LDMP but can be used on a stand-alone basis as required. The following Sub Plans support this LDMP:

- Activation of the Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC);
- Financial Management;
- Public Information and Warnings;
- Logistics;
- Flood and Evacuation Plan;
- Evacuation; and
- Public Health.

Distribution and availability of plan

The plan is available on the Diamantina web site and copies are provided on request. Members of the LDMG are supplied copies and the XO of the DDMG is provided a copy.

LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

Role of Local Government

The Act details a range of functions and responsibilities for local government to ensure that it meets its statutory obligations. Section 80 of the Act requires local government to undertake the following functions:

- a) To ensure it has a disaster response capability;
- b) To approve its LDMP;
- c) To ensure information about an event or a disaster in its area is promptly given to the DDC for the district in which its area is situated; and
- d) To perform other functions given to the local government under the Act.

In accordance with section 80 of the Act, a disaster response capability for local government means the ability to provide equipment and a suitable number of people to effectively manage or help another entity to manage an emergency or disaster in the local government area. To ensure this can be achieved, all DSC services have designated responsibilities in disaster management that reflect their legislated and/or technical capability.

In addition to these functions, Section 29 of the Act specifies that local government must establish a LDMG for the local government's area.

Establishment of the LDMG

LDMGs are established under section 29 of the Act by local governments to support and coordinate disaster management activities for their respective LGAs. A Terms of Reference is available. LDMG responsibilities are outlined in Manual M.1.030.

Functions of the LDMG

These functions of the LDMG are prescribed under Section 30 of the Act:

- a) To ensure that disaster management and disaster operations in the area are consistent with the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State.
- b) To develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management.
- c) To help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan.
- d) To identify, and provide advice to the relevant district group about, support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations in the area.
- e) To ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a disaster.
- f) To manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group.
- g) To provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations.

- h) To identify, and coordinate the use of, resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area.
- i) To establish and review communications systems in the group, and with the relevant district group and other local groups in the disaster district of the relevant district group, for use when a disaster happens.
- j) To ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group.
- k) To perform other functions given to the group under the Act.
- l) To perform a function incidental to a function mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (k).

Business and Meetings of LDMG

In accordance with section 38 of the Act, the LDMG will conduct its business, including meetings as prescribed by the Regulation. Ordinary meetings are scheduled every three (3) months and extraordinary meetings will be convened as required. Quorum (50 per cent +1 of membership) must be achieved for decisions of the LDMG to be valid.

LDMG Operational Decision-Making Capability

The LDC are authorised to make initial operational response coordination decisions on behalf of the full LDMG to initiate the disaster management arrangements and whilst acting in accordance with LDMG approved plans and procedures. The LDC have an exclusively operational response coordination function, which will not, at any time, replace the policy decision-making role of the full LDMG.

Member and Advisory Roles and Responsibilities of the LDMG

Table 3 below details the membership and responsibilities of the LDMG as appointed in accordance with Sections 33 and 34 of the Act. All members have the necessary experience to assist the group undertake and meet its legislative requirements. Membership of the group includes any person acting in the capacity of an appointed member using a DM13 form. When membership changes, notice is provided to the DDMG. If the Chair or LDC changes, notice is to be provided to the SDCC.

Authority of LDMG Members and Advisors

The Members and advisors of the LDMG should have:

- The authority to commit their respective organisation to the LDMG's decisions
- The ability to effectively navigate their respective organisations to seek approval for the commitment of their organisation resources
- A sound understanding of the QDMA and this LDMP.

Table 3: Membership and responsibilities of the LDMG

Agency	Position	Status	Responsibilities
Diamantina Shire Council (DSC)	Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) Chair – Mayor	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To chair LDMG meetings and to provide the primary link between the LDMG and council To manage and coordinate the business of the group, to ensure, as far as practicable, that the group performs, its functions, to report regularly to the relevant district group, and the Commissioner of Police, about the performance by the LDMG of its functions.
	LDMG Deputy Chair and Chair of Local Recovery Group –Deputy Mayor/Councillor	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG To chair LDMG Meetings in the absence of the Chair Provide a link between the LDMG and council To participate in the issuing of public information and warnings.
	Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC) – Chief Executive Officer (CEO), DSC	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate disaster operations for the LDMG, report regularly to the LDMG about disaster operations, to ensure, as far as practicable, that any strategic decisions of the LDMG about disaster operations are implemented Provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG To activate the LDMP and LDCC when required.
	Deputy LDC – DSC – Director Corporate Services, DSC	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake the functions of the LDC in the LDC’s absence Provide advice and support to the Chair, LDC and LDMG

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Agency	Position	Status	Responsibilities
	Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) – When Appointed	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To undertake the functions of the LRC To coordinate community support during disaster operations for the LDMG Lead and coordinate recovery operations reporting regularly to the Local Recovery Group about recovery operations, to ensure, as far as practicable, that any strategic decisions of the LDMG about recovery operations are implemented Provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG To activate the Recovery Group and develop an event specific recovery plan when required.
Diamantina Shire Council (DSC)	Media Liaison Officer (MLO) – Officer, Communications, DSC	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation and dissemination of public information and warnings during an event Responsibilities identified in relevant Public Information and Warnings Sub Plan.
Queensland Police Service (QPS)	Officers in Charge (OIC) – Bedourie, Birdsville	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to pg. 94 of the State Disaster Management Plan Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
Queensland Police Service (QPS)	Emergency Management Coordinator	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison between the agency and the LDMG Provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG Provide training IAW the QEMTF.
State Emergency Service (SES)	SES Local Controller	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
Queensland Fire Department (QFD)	Area Commander FRS	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to pg. 90 and 91 of the State Disaster Management Plan Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
Queensland Health	DON Bedourie and Birdsville	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to pg. 92 and 93 of the State Disaster Management Plan Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.

Agency	Position	Status	Responsibilities
Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads	TMR Barcaldine Office	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Regional Liaison Officer	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
Ergon Energy	Ergon Energy	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary agency for providing, maintaining, and restoring power supplies Provide advice to the LDMG on power supply issues Provide safety information to consumers.
Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)	SDCC BoM rep as required	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
Telstra	Regional Representative	Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary agency for the management and maintenance of the telecommunications network across all providers Liaison between organisation and the LDMG.

LDMG terms of reference

Role

s. 4A of the Act

The local government, through the LDMG, retains primary responsibility for managing disaster events contained within the local government area.

Functions

s. 30 of the Act

The LDMG has the following functions:

- To ensure that disaster management and disaster operations in the area are consistent with the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State;
- To develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management;
- To help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan;
- To identify, and provide advice to the relevant district group about, support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations in the area;
- To ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster;
- To manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group;
- To provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations;
- To identify, and coordinate the use of, resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area;
- To establish and review communications systems in the group, and with the relevant district group and other local groups in the disaster district of the relevant district group, for use when a disaster happens;
- To ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group;
- To perform other functions given to the group under the Act; and
- To perform a function incidental to any of the previous functions mentioned.

Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland

The Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland (the Standard) establishes the performance requirements for all entities involved in disaster management. This Standard is created under section 16N (1) of the Act and is reviewed periodically to ensure it remains contemporary and meets the needs and expectations of the disaster management sector (the sector). The Standard forms the basis for assurance activities conducted by the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM or the Office) or a disaster management entity.

Shared Responsibilities

The Shared Responsibilities are the elements of disaster management that all entities should deliver against and that everyone within the sector is responsible for contributing to. Shared Responsibilities should not be considered in isolation – they are the interconnected responsibilities that collectively make up the system of disaster management within Queensland.

Outcomes

Outcomes are high-level statements that all entities should strive to achieve. They are the end state that the sector is collectively aiming for. Outcomes are grouped under the correlating Shared Responsibilities.

Indicators

Indicators represent the individual items or actions that demonstrate that an entity is working toward or achieving an Outcome. Indicators define the elements that make up each Outcome. They provide guidance as to the evidence that may be provided when determining whether the Outcome is able to be achieved. As such, all Indicators are specific to the related Outcome.

Accountabilities

The Accountabilities provide structure for the delivery of Outcomes and Indicators. They consider what an entity is accountable for under legislation and accepted good disaster management practice.

The Accountabilities are also a mechanism to frame what the Inspector-General Emergency Management may consider in evidencing the achievement of the Outcomes.

The five Accountabilities are:

- Governance;
- Doctrine;
- People;
- Enablers; and
- Continuous Improvement.

Each of these Accountabilities has specific criteria that must be met to ensure a level of rigour around the delivery of Outcomes.

COORDINATION OF DISASTER OPERATIONS

Coordination underpins the entire disaster management system. It is defined in the State Disaster Management Plan as:

The bringing together of organisations to ensure effective disaster management before, during and after an event. It is primarily concerned with systematic acquisition and application of resources (people, material, equipment etc) in accordance with priorities set by disaster management groups. Coordination operates horizontally across organisations and agencies.

Coordination in disaster management is about the effective management of different agencies with a diverse range of expertise, resources and skills by ensuring that they work together to a common goal and resources are best used for the benefit of the community.

One of the supplementary principles of disaster management is 'coordination, collaboration and consultation'. Effective management of any disaster relies on strong coordination arrangements, consultative decision making, collaboration and shared responsibility achieved through supporting relationships, trust and teamwork between individuals, agencies and the community.

Statement of compliance with legislation, guidelines and strategic policy statement

The Diamantina Shire and the Local Disaster Management Group will ensure that the Shire's responsibilities in its Terms of reference as detailed in section 1.3 of this plan are executed within the available resources of both the group and the district. The shire is committed to the values of the disaster management strategic framework:

- Protecting health, safety, quality of life and economic vitality.
- Building and maintaining partnerships and collaboration across all levels of government, community and industry, in all aspects of disaster management.
- Protecting our natural and built environment.
- Respecting the diversity of Queensland communities.
- Ensuring accountability and transparency of the Queensland disaster management arrangements.

S57 of the Act requires that a local government must prepare a Local Disaster Management Plan for disaster management in the local government area.

The Act states that a local government must prepare a corporate plan that identifies the local and regional issues the local government has identified as affecting its area. These issues are to include disaster management (s.104).

Meeting Schedule

The Diamantina LDMG has an obligation under the Disaster Management Act to meet twice per year. Traditionally these meetings have been held prior to the traditional wet season and post season. The LDC of the Diamantina group will schedule these meetings and notify the members. All meeting will be minuted and a copy of these minutes will be sent to the district group.

Administrative responsibilities

The LDC of the local group is responsible for the administrative responsibilities of the group. The following administrative tasks are to be undertaken by the group:

- Keeping of meeting minutes;
- Maintenance of contact list;
- Maintenance of membership lists;
- Updating of local plan;
- Registration of correspondence;
- Reporting (as listed); and
- Conduct of meetings.

Authority to activate the Group

The group may be activated by the Chair of the local group should the Chair believe that the activation in response to a threat is significant to warrant activation. The level of activation will be determined by the chair taking into account the likelihood and possible impact of the threat.

The group may be activated by the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC)

Activation of the group will occur independently of activation of DRFA, the decision to activate will be based on threat rather than financial implications.

Once the group is activated situation reports will be compiled and submitted to the district group at a frequency determined by the district group, it may be agreed that more informal methods of communications may be more appropriate.

Whilst there may be no requirement for the entire group to be in attendance at a coordination centre the chair is to ensure that the entire group is kept informed of the situation and actions of the group.

The group will stand down only after the decision to cease activity has been made from the chair and the DDC.

Once the group has stood down a final situation report will be compiled and sent to the district group.

Reporting Requirements

The LDC of the Diamantina Group is responsible for the administrative and reporting obligations of the group. The following reporting must be undertaken by the group:

Report	Submitted to	Frequency	Format
Meeting minutes	DDMG/SDMG	Following every meeting	Council minutes
LDMG Report	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	Issued by SDMG
LDMG Membership	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	With above
Situation reports	DDMG	As required	As issued
Activation report	DDMG	As required	Issued by DDMG

DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT

Community Context

Geography

The Diamantina Shire is an inland Shire that is bordered by the Northern Territory Border to the West, the South Australian border to the South, the Barcoo Shire to the East and the Winton Shire to the North East.

The Shire covers an area of 97 300 Km2.

The Shire is generally flat, sandy and sparsely vegetated with numerous sand dunes and normally dry channels crossing the shire. The Shire becomes forms the eastern edge of the Simpson Desert

The predominant river systems in the shire are:

River	River basin
Diamantina	Diamantina
Eyre Creek	Georgina/Eyre Creek

Climate and Weather

The Diamantina Shire is predominantly dry with seasonal rain in the summer months, this seasonal rain is not guaranteed and the Shire may go for years without any significant rain.

Diamantina is subject to “dry flooding” due to the many channels that flow through the shire as they drain into the Lake Eyre basin. Flood waters are rarely deep but may cover hundreds of kilometres. The town of Bedourie is surrounded by an earth levee bank that was hastily built for the 1974 floods, this protects the town from the low level water.

In 2007 a weather system delivered 300mm of rain in Bedourie then another 300mm of rain in Birdsville 7 days later. This rain event resulted in damage to infrastructure and prolonged isolation of both towns.

Diamantina is also susceptible to strong winds and dust storms ranging from mild to severe are a regular occurrence in the shire (wind speed is not recorded in the shire). Electrical and thunder storm occur in the summer months.

The lack of rainfall gauges in the shire makes predicting flood levels difficult. Flooding of the channel country is normally slow and rarely damages infrastructure.

Population

The Diamantina Shire has a population of 266 (based on 2021 census data) the population is distributed as follows:

Bedourie: 150
Birdsville: 110
Betoota: 2
Other: 29

The shire is 97 300 Km² giving it a population density of .002 persons per Km².

The Shire sees an influx of tourists in September for the Birdsville races when the population swells to around 6000. Throughout the cooler months the shire plays host to numerous tourists. The Big Red Bash is normally held in July, in 2022 the event claims to have attracted at least 11 000 campers. The Shire is a starting or end point for many travellers embarking on desert crossings or travelling the Birdsville track to South Australia.

Vulnerable People

Elderly and infirmed individuals in the community are minimal, these individuals are known to the care providers.

Community Preparedness

Residents of the Diamantina Shire are resilient and accustomed to the regular isolation that accompanies the wet season in the area. The risk is that tourists who are unfamiliar with the risks associated become stranded or there is unseasonal rain during major events. This has occurred on occasion but was more of an inconvenience.

Industry

Industry in the Diamantina Shire is predominately agriculture (beef) (\$88m/pa) and tourism.

Critical Infrastructure

Critical infrastructure includes power, water, sewage, roads and essential services buildings.

Electricity Supply

Diamantina Shire is not connected to the national Grid (Diesel generator for Bedourie and Birdsville), however power is fairly reliable. Critical facilities are able to operate from auxiliary power if required.

Water Supply

Water supply across the shire varies from treated Dam supply to treated artesian supply.

Sewerage

Across the Shire there is a mixture of sewage and septic systems.

Roads

From	To	Road	Surface	KM
Mount Isa	Bedourie	Diamantina/Eyre Dev Rd	Sealed	483
Boulia	Bedourie	Diamantina Dev Rd	Sealed	217
Bedourie	Birdsville	Eyre Dev Rd	Mostly Sealed	166
Bedourie	Birdsville	Eyre Dev Rd + flood bypass	Mix	191
Bedourie	Windorah	Diamantina Dev Rd	Mix	390
Birdsville	Windorah	Birdsville Dev Rd	Mix	385
Bedourie	Longreach	Diamantina/Thompson Dev Rd	Mix	704
Birdsville	Longreach	Birdsville/Thompson Dev Rd	Mix	700

Airport

<p>Bedourie <i>Airport codes:</i> BEU YBIE <i>Type:</i> regional airport <i>Scheduled airline service:</i> yes <i>Latitude:</i> - 24.346100 / 24 20.765991 S / S24 20 45 <i>Longitude:</i> 139.460007 / 139 27.600403 E / E139 27 36 <i>Field elevation:</i> 300 ft/91 m MSL <i>Magnetic variation:</i> 6.4°E 4,921 x 98 ft (1,500 x 30 m) — paved — lighted</p>	<p>Birdsville <i>Airport codes:</i> BVI YBDV <i>Type:</i> regional airport <i>Scheduled airline service:</i> yes <i>Latitude:</i> -25.897499 / 25 53.849945 S / S25 53 50 <i>Longitude:</i> 139.348007 / 139 20.880432 E / E139 20 52 <i>Field elevation:</i> 159 ft/48 m MSL <i>Magnetic variation:</i> 6.5°E 03/21 3,937 x 59 ft (1,200 x 18 m) — other (CLA) — lighted 14/32 5,682 x 98 ft (1,732 x 30 m) — paved — lighted</p>
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Essential Services

Bedourie:

- Queensland Police;
- Health (small inpatient facility);
- SES; and
- Rural Fire Service.

Birdsville:

- Queensland Police;
- Health (small inpatient facility);
- SES; and
- Rural Fire Service.

Hazardous Sites

There are no hazardous facilities in the Shire. There are diesel storage facilities for the power generators in Bedourie and Birdsville. DSC maintains diesel storage at the industrial areas of Bedourie and Birdsville.

Public Buildings, Spaces and Events

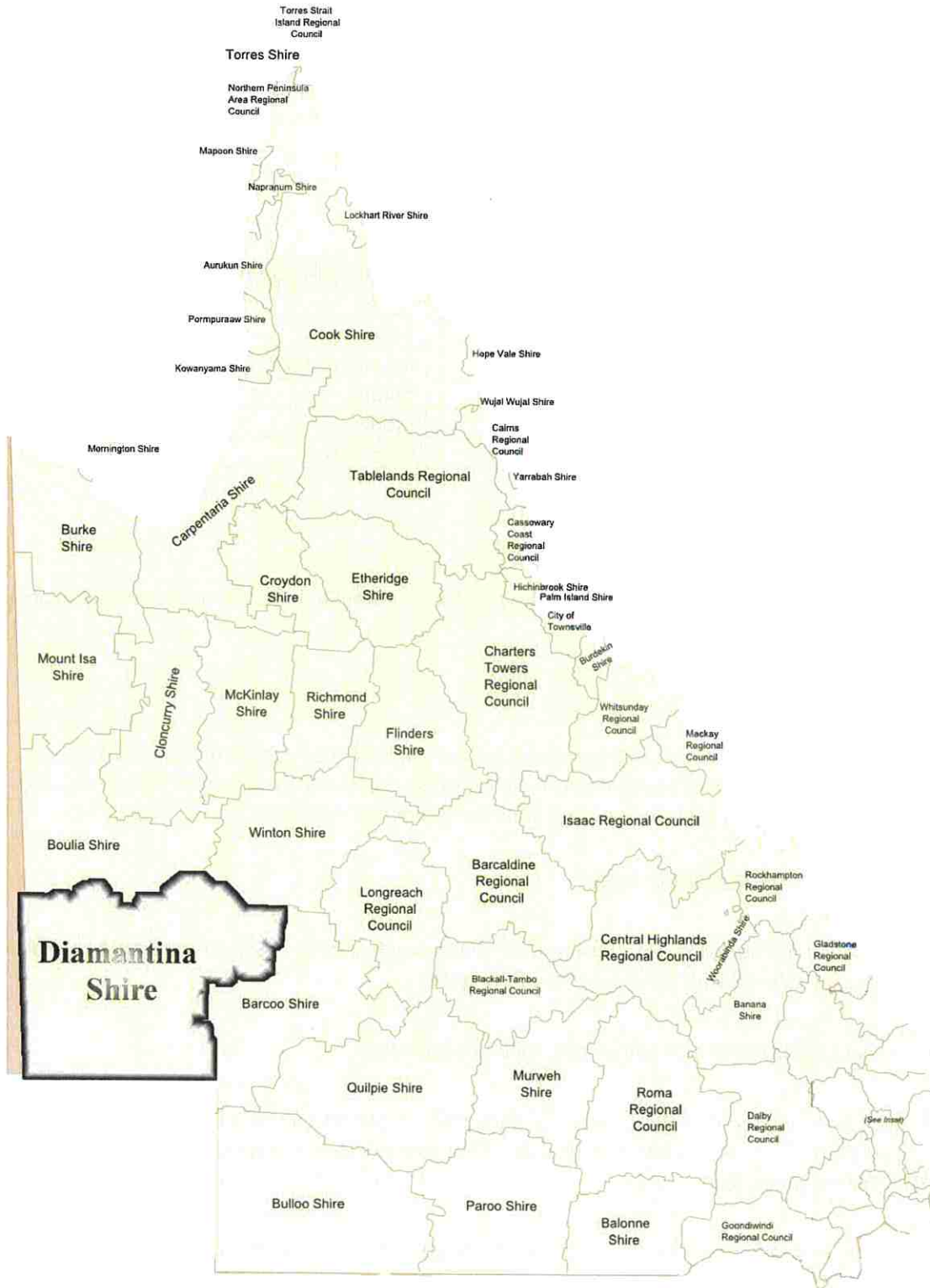
The Diamantina Shire has no areas that would be considered high density during normal operations, the Big Red Bash is considered high density however is a private event conducted on private land in July.

Proposed Future development

Diamantina shire is expected to experience minimal growth in infrastructure and housing over the next five years.

Neighbour relationships

The Diamantina Shire has good working relationships with the neighbouring Shires of Barcoo, Boulia, Winton, South Australia and the Northern Territory.



Hazards

The risk management record draws heavily on information in the Diamantina Natural Disaster Risk Management Study.

The current full risk assessment is held by council.

Hazard	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Level
Bushfire	Rare	Minor	Very Low
Severe Storm	Possible	Minor	Low
Flooding	Likely	Minor-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Pandemic	Unlikely	Minor	Low
Animal Disease	Unlikely	Moderate	Low
Heatwave	Possible	Moderate	Moderate

Risk Assessment

Risk assessments have been undertaken for all hazards identified to have any relevance to the area covered by the plan.

Risk Treatment

The risk assessment identified existing controls for each hazard and possible future treatments to further reduce the identified residual risk. Possible further treatments will only be moved into the existing control category after funding and implementation has occurred.

MANAGEMENT OF RESIDUAL RISK

Throughout the risk management process there will be residual risks. These are the risks to the shire that cannot be reduced within the capacity of the shire.

For the Diamantina shire there will be two main residual risks:

Staffing: It is recognised that the shire will lack the staff or specialised skill sets that may be required during an event. These identified residual risks will be referred to the DDMG for inclusion in the district disaster management plan.

Engineering: In order to remove or significantly reduced certain risks modification assets through engineering will be required.

Prevention

Prevention includes measures to eliminate, mitigate or reduce the likelihood of a disaster occurring, or the severity should it eventuate.

Hazard mitigation is the action taken in advance of a disaster, aimed at eliminating or reducing the impact on the community, economy, infrastructure, and environment.

The implementation of appropriate and targeted mitigation initiatives can offer more sustainable cost savings and result in a safer, more resilient, and sustainable community.

Local and District Disaster Management Groups and the Queensland Disaster Management Committee each have responsibility for prevention activities.

Land Use Planning

Land use planning in areas exposed to natural hazards can significantly reduce disaster risk, the impact of hazards should they arise and enhance the resilience of existing and future communities. Regulating the use and development of land is a key strategy to avoid risk to life, property, and environment, and reduce damage and disruption to the community.

Land use planning is undertaken in accordance with the State Planning Policy (SPP) requires local governments to identify natural hazards, undertake a risk assessment and include appropriate provisions in their planning scheme to ensure that the risk is tolerable to their community.

The [DSC Planning Scheme 2021](#) provides a framework under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 for managing development within the region over the next 20 years. The Planning Scheme uses a series of overlays as a means of influencing development to mitigate or reduce the effects of hazards.

Building Codes, Regulations and Legislation

The application of building codes and building use regulations aims to ensure that buildings and infrastructure are designed and constructed to standards that reduce the likelihood of damage and injury in an event. Standards and codes should be referred to and enforced particularly for the design and construction of major infrastructure and components of essential services. These controls are important preventative measures that complement effective land use planning. The Queensland Development Code ensures that buildings exposed to particular natural hazards are designed to ensure structural integrity.

Design Improvements

Infrastructure is required for a community to function effectively however it can be vulnerable to hazards. As a consequence, a community's resilience or ability to respond to a disaster will be influenced by the working availability of essential infrastructure inclusive of roads, dams, bridges, electrical, digital and communications networks, water supply and sewerage systems and the buildings that house essential services (such as communications and health).

In addition, infrastructure may alter flood flows, depth or velocity and add debris to the floodwaters.

Therefore, infrastructure on the path of the flood hazard may have consequences that are either intended or unintended. The location and build quality of any infrastructure assets needs to consider the risk associated with potential flood events within that community.

Design improvements to infrastructure or services can be engineered to provide a greater level of resilience. Design improvements can be applied to new infrastructure or to harden existing infrastructure or when considering betterment works during the reconstruction phase. Ensuring the reliability of critical infrastructure and services supports the communities' social and economic wellbeing.

Design improvement works provide a range of potential preventative measures including but not limited to levees, flood gates and, on a larger scale, flood mitigating dams. Deciding what role, if any, structural works should play in mitigating risk requires quantifying the risk and consequences to the population.

Landscape and Environment

Ecosystems serve as protective buffers against natural hazards such as flooding, and the vegetation cover in catchment influences run off and flood behaviour. Traditional methods of flood mitigation have generally focused on structural works, such as levees and building controls that ensure buildings have greater resilience. As effective as these measures may or may not be, it is increasingly recognised that non-structural measures including the management of landscapes can play an important role in mitigating the impact of natural hazards.

Hazard Reduction

Each agency of the LDMG is responsible for implementing appropriate hazard reduction programs for risks under their control. As an example DSC and various landowners undertake an annual hazard reduction program for bushfires (Including town common and fence lines). This includes a program of fuel reduction and back-burning, maintenance, and development of fire breaks and DSC plays an active role on the Area Fire Management Group, which provides strategic fire mitigation programs, operational preparedness and response, risk identification and hazard reduction burning.

Continuous Improvement

The practice of continuous improvement involves disaster management processes and arrangements being regularly evaluated and improved to ensure they remain fit for purpose, efficient, effective, and flexible.

PREPARATION

LDMG Preparedness and Capacity Building

Effective disaster response and recovery activities begin with preparedness and awareness raising activities that are conducted on an ongoing basis, in advance of any potential disaster to ensure that if an event occurs, communities, resources and services are able to cope with its effects.

LDMG preparedness relates to having arrangements in place to ensure that, should a disaster occur, all the resources and services which are needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed.

Capacity building occurs across the phases of prevention and preparation and is built through activities that ensure ongoing improvement of the disaster management arrangements. The implementation and delivery of LDMG meetings, workshops and training and exercises are critical elements in the continuous improvement of disaster management capacity building. Hazard specific and functional plans will be developed as required.

Community Preparedness and Capacity Building

Section 30 of the Act requires the LDMG to ensure that the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster. The LDMG recognises that local knowledge is invaluable to the disaster planning process and that the community plays a key role in contributing to its own safety. The LDMG advocates that everyone can prepare for disasters in ways that can reduce the impact on their home, family, friends, pets and themselves.

The LDMG community education and awareness programs focus on creating resilient communities. Resilient communities are those that understand the risks they face, how to prepare themselves, their home and their community for the possibility of a disaster event to minimise impacts, can adapt to the circumstances, recover quickly and emerge stronger than their pre-disaster state.

Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

Queensland is the most disaster impacted state in Australia. By necessity, Queenslanders are renowned for their resilience and ability to adapt, with a strong community spirit that supports those in need to withstand and recover from disasters. The preparedness and resilience of individuals and communities is a shared responsibility of all sectors, including all levels of government, business, NGO's and individuals. Disaster resilience is significantly increased by proactive planning and preparation for the protection of life, property and the environment through an awareness of hazards, associated risks and local disaster management arrangements.

The [Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience](#) is the guiding instrument for realising the vision to make Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia and is underpinned by four key objectives:

- Queenslanders understand their disaster risk
- Strengthened disaster risk management
- Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction
- Continuous improvement in disaster preparedness.

Community Awareness

This programme comprises the following elements:

Publications explaining flooding and emergency procedures;

- Preparation of media releases explaining flooding preparedness and emergency procedures;
- Publications prepared by statutory services detailing the measures that should be taken to prevent, minimise and deal with the effects of emergency situations; and
- Ongoing media campaign to encourage the public to "be aware".
- Stocks of these publications will be made available to the public by Council.
- A local public education campaign should be held in Diamantina using these materials.
- Public information is that information which is passed on to the public prior to, during, and after, a Disaster, such as warnings and directions.
- Use of the Australian Warnings System before, during and after events.
- Providing such information is not urgent, the Disaster Management information will be passed to radio and television media for dissemination to the public of as directed by the Controlling Authority. However, where there is insufficient time for this means of dissemination, it will be necessary to inform the public directly and this will become a task for the LDMG.

All outside media inquiries are to be directed to the LDMG Chairperson or their delegate.

The Diamantina Shire will ensure that public education material in relation to natural hazard events is available on the Council website on a page specifically dedicated to Local Disaster Management.

During flood events the Shire will work closely with media to ensure that the condition of roads in the shire is widely disseminated, this will assist in reducing the number of persons becoming stranded in the town and on roads in the shire.

Training

The Diamantina Local Disaster Management group will undertake disaster management training in line with the Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework.

Exercises

The LDMG has the responsibility to conduct disaster management exercises with each individual agency to ensure they have exercised and practiced procedures. QFD will be utilised to facilitate exercises conducted for groups in the disaster management arrangements.

A hot debrief will be conducted immediacy following the exercise, the debrief will be conducted in the format of SWOT:

- Strengths: characteristics of the team that give it an advantage over others
- Weaknesses: are characteristics that place the team at a disadvantage relative to others
- Opportunities: external chances to improve performance in the environment
- Threats: external elements in the environment that could cause trouble for the team. Any issues identified should be noted and recorded against one or more of the P2OST2E categories, depending on your perception of the reason behind the issue identified.

People	roles, responsibilities and accountabilities, skills
Process	includes plans, policies, procedure, processes
Organisation	structure and jurisdiction
Support	infrastructure, facilities, maintenance
Technology	equipment, systems, standards, interoperability, security
Training	capability qualifications/skill levels, identify courses required
Exercise Management	exercise development, structure, management, conduct

Post Disaster Assessment

Following any operational activity the LDMG will meet to identify and adopt any lessons that can be learnt from the actions taken during the response to continuously improve the LDMP. The LDMP has been delegated the role of continually reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of disaster management. Immediately following an event a HOT debrief will be conducted as detailed in the Exercises heading. A post full post event review will be conducted with the results including any corrective actions to be disseminated to the LDMG members and the XO of the District Group.

WARNING NOTIFICATION AND DISSEMINATION

Diamantina Shire has very good established communications systems to the community and due to the size of the community is very connected to the community in both towns as well as the rural areas.



Diamantina has adopted the Australian Warnings System and has developed template warnings for flooding, it is not anticipated that warnings will be issued for severe storm as there is very minimal radar coverage of the area and it is unlikely sufficient notice will be given to allow for a warning to be issued.

The use of Emergency Alert is considered minimal due to the small size of the communities therefore pre populated EA campaigns are not considered however can be developed ad-hoc. Coverage of rural properties by EA would be considered negligible due to no mobile coverage.




AWS When to Warn: refer table

When to warn

Riverine and flash flooding

Level		Actions	Context
Advice		Stay informed	There is confidence that flooding is possible and people need to know where they can go to stay informed about the flooding situation.
		Prepare now for possible flooding	Flooding is likely but evacuation might not be necessary at this stage. People need to get ready to be flooded.
		Return safely (<i>de-escalating</i>)	The flooding has gone down enough for people to go back to their homes and businesses but alerts them to the dangers left behind by the flood.
Watch and Act		Prepare to leave	People are likely to be flooded and they need to get ready to leave for their own safety, either from flooding or extended isolation.
		Move to higher ground	Flooding has started and people in those places need to move to higher ground to be safe. This template will usually apply to a small area (i.e., several streets) rather than a town or whole suburb/s.
		Avoid the area (<i>de-escalating</i>)	The flood has peaked and/or is starting to go down but the area is dangerous and must be avoided. It fills the anxious information void and lets people know they're not alone and the situation is being monitored.
Emergency Warning		Leave by XX:XX (AM or PM)	You are confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings and it would be safer for people in those areas to leave. There is time to move people safely.
		Take shelter now (<i>flash flood template</i>)	Flooding has increased significantly and people in some areas need to do more than find higher ground to be safe.
		Leave immediately	You are confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings very soon. It is safest for people to leave.
		Too dangerous to leave	People who did not 'leave by' or 'leave immediately' are now should stay where they are because all evacuation routes are cut off.

AWS Flood warning matrix

Level	Action	Context
Advice 	Stay informed	There is confidence that flooding is possible and people need to know where they can go to stay informed about the flooding situation.
	Prepare now for possible flood	Flooding is likely but evacuation might not be necessary at this stage. People need to get ready to be flooded.
De-escalating	Return safely	The flooding has gone down enough for people to go back to their homes and businesses but alerts them to the dangers left behind by the flood.
Watch and Act 	Prepare to leave	People are likely to be flooded and they need to get ready to leave for their own safety, either from flooding or extended isolation.
	Move to higher ground	Flooding has started and people in those places need to move to higher ground to be safe. This template will usually apply to a small area (i.e., several streets) rather than a town or whole suburb/s.
De-escalating	Avoid the area	The flood has peaked and/or is starting to go down but the area is dangerous and must be avoided. It fills the anxious information void and lets people know they're not alone and the situation is being monitored.
Emergency Warning 	Leave by XX:XX (AM or PM)	You are confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings and it would be safer for people in those areas to leave. There is time to move people safely.
	Take shelter now (Flash flood template)	Flooding has increased significantly and people in some areas need to do more than find higher ground to be safe.
	Leave immediately	You can confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings very soon. It is safest for people to leave.
	Too dangerous to leave	People who did not 'leave by' or 'leave immediately' are now stuck where they are because all evacuation routes are cut off.

Diamantina will utilise social media and direct contact to disseminate the AWS products.

RESPONSE STRATEGY

The Diamantina Shire has access to the staff and equipment to deal with the majority of events that threaten the shire. Widespread damage or multiple events would require the resources of the shire to be supplemented by the district group.

Diamantina has predominantly activated for flooding in the past. Due to the nature of the flooding there is a considerable lean forward phase where flooding can be reasonably predicted. In the event of incident with little or no warning and widespread damage (earthquake or severe storm) local emergency response agencies would be quickly overwhelmed. In this case additional resources would be requested from Mount Isa (less than 2 hr).

During major or prolonged flooding the LDMG may need to request a resupply of essential good for the Bedourie and Birdsville Townships.

The Diamantina Shire has the capability to manage events that occur in the shire on a regular basis, these include minor to Major flooding, and short duration storms.

Larger scale events in the shire or multiple events would require the support of outside agencies. The shire has the capacity to effect small scale evacuations however larger scale evacuation with prolonged shelter phases would require assistance from outside of the shire.

Whilst the shire has access to a range of services it recognises the limitations within these services. An example of this is that lack of a doctor in the shire.

Activation of response arrangements

Timely activation of the LDMG is critical for an effective response to an event. The decision to activate is dependent upon a number of factors including the perceived level of threat. The activation of the QDMA may either be bottom up or top down. Bottom up activations escalate up through the disaster management arrangements where the LDMG requires support and top down activations involve escalation down through the arrangements from the SDMG where the imminent threat has a broader implication across the State.

The QDMA are activated using an escalation model based on the following levels:

- **Alert** – A heightened level of vigilance due to the possibility of an event in the area of responsibility. No action is required however the situation should be monitored by someone capable of assessing the potential of the threat.
- **Lean forward** – An operational state characterised by a heightened level of situational awareness of a disaster event (either current or impending) and a state of operational readiness. Disaster coordination centres are on stand by and prepared but not activated.
- **Stand up** – An operational state where resources are mobilised, personnel are activated and operational activities commenced. Disaster coordination centres are activated.
- **Stand down** – Transition from responding to an event back to normal core business and / or continuance of recovery operations. There is no longer a requirement to respond to the event and the threat is no longer present.

The movement of disaster management groups through this escalation phase is not necessarily sequential, rather is based on flexibility and adaptability to the location and event. Activation does not

necessarily mean the convening of the LDMG, rather the provision of information to group members regarding the risks associated with a pending hazard impact.

The four levels of activation, as defined in the SDMP, are shown in table below.

	Triggers	Actions	Communications
Alert	Awareness of a hazard that has been the potential to affect the local government area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard & risks identified • Information sharing with warning agency • LDC contacts QFES • Initial advice to all stakeholders 	Chair and LDC on mobile remotely
Lean Forward	There is a likelihood that threat may affect local government area Threat is quantified but may not yet be imminent Need for public awareness LDMG is now to manage the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QFES and LDC conduct analysis of predictions • Chair and LDC on watching brief • Confirm level & potential of threat • Check all contact details • Commence cost capturing • Conduct meeting with available LDMG • Council staff prepare for operations • Determine trigger point to stand up • Prepare LDCC for operations • Establish regular communications with warning agency • First briefing core members of the LDMG • LDC advises DDC of lean forward & establishes regular contact • Warning orders to response agencies • Public information & warning initiated 	Chair, LDC and LDMG members on mobile and monitoring email remotely Ad-hoc reporting

	Triggers	Actions	Communications
Stand Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat is imminent • Community will be or has been impacted • Need for coordination in LDCC • Requests for support received by LDMG agencies or to the LDCC • The response requires coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of LDMG Core Group • LDCC activated • Rosters for LDCC planned implemented • Commence operational plans • Local Government shifts to disaster operations • LDMG takes full control • SOPs activated • Core group of LDMG located in LDCC • Commence SITREPs to DDMG • Distribute contact details • DDMG advised of potential requests for support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDCC contact through established land lines and generic email addresses • Chair, LDC and LDMG members present at LDCC, on established land lines and / or mobiles, monitoring emails
Stand Down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requirement for coordinated response • Community has returned to normal function • Recovery taking place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final checks for outstanding requests • Implement plan to transition to recovery • Debrief of staff in LDCC • Debrief with LDMG members • Consolidate financial records • Hand over to Recovery Coordinator for reporting • Return to local government core business • Final situation report sent to DDMG 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LDMG members involved in recovery operations resume standard business and after hours contact arrangements

ROLE OF THE LOCAL DISASTER COORDINATION CENTRE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Local Coordination Centre will be at the Council Chambers at the Bedourie administration centre and/or the Wirrarri Centre in Birdsville.

The main aim of the LDCC is to coordinate resources and assistance in support of local agencies and stakeholders who are engaged in disaster operations the size and structure of the LDCC will be commensurate with the level of response required for the event.

The primary functions of a LDCC revolve around three key activities:

- Forward planning;
- Resource management; and
- Information management.

In particular, the LDCC is responsible for the:

- Analysis of probable future requirements and forward planning including preliminary investigations to aid the response to potential requests for assistance;
- Implementation of operational decisions of the LDC;
- Advice of additional resources required to the DDMG; and
- Provision of prompt and relevant information to the DDMG concerning any disaster event occurring within their district.

The LDC has overall responsibility for the establishment and operation of the LDCC. The LDC should ensure appropriate levels of staff are identified and trained in operation of the LDCC. LDCC training would form a component of the LDMG training program. To support the operation of the LDCC, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) should be developed and utilised to inform training.

SES – partnerships

The SES is a vital part of the QDMA, providing a response capability on behalf of the LDMG to assist communities in times of disaster or emergency situations. State and Local Governments maintain an important partnership in assisting SES volunteers to provide a valuable volunteer emergency service to their local communities.

The functions of the SES are to:

- Perform search and rescue or similar operations;
- Help injured persons or protect persons or property from danger or potential danger; and
- Conduct other activities to help communities prepare for, respond to and recover from an event or disaster.

The SES also provides valuable assistance to other emergency service agencies in disaster or emergency situations.

The SES Local Controller should ideally be a member of the LDMG and will be able to assist with planning and procedures surrounding activation and operations of SES groups in local government areas.

Declaration of a disaster situation

In accordance with s. 64 of the Act, a DDC may, with the approval of the Minister, declare a disaster situation for the district or one or more local government areas within the district in whole or in part. As outlined in s. 75 and s. 77 of the Act, the declaration confers extra powers on particular groups to perform actions, give directions and control movements within the declared area.

In declaring a disaster situation, the DDC is to be satisfied that a disaster has happened, is happening or is likely to happen and it will be necessary, or reasonably likely to be necessary, to exercise declared disaster powers to prevent or minimise the loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment. Before declaring a disaster situation the DDC is to take reasonable steps to consult with each local government under the Act to manage disaster operations in their area.

It is important to note that the declaration of a disaster situation relates to the situational requirement for additional powers and is not linked to the activation of particular disaster management groups under the QDMA or the activation of disaster financial assistance arrangements. All three actions are independent processes and are not interlinked or conditional. The declaration of a disaster situation does not impact the requirements of a local government under the Act to manage disaster operations in their area.

Operational reporting and recording

Situation Report (SITREP)

During operational activity the LDMG, through the operation of the LDCC, will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of SITREPs. Situation reports are aimed to capture accurate information from the day's operations through communicating a current and forecast situation during a disaster event.

For protracted event formal situation reports may not be the most appropriate form of communications the DDCC will discuss with the LDC as to what is required however this may be email or phone conversations.

Tasking Log

It is recommended that a tasking log be used during activations to record actions taken and the responsible agency or officer. It is anticipated that the log will be used by the LDC or in larger operations the Tasking or Operations Officer in the LDCC.

A tasking log may contain details of:

- The specific operational task to be undertaken;
- The date and time of commencement of the task;
- The agency and responsible officer to which the task has been delegated;
- Relevant contact details;
- The date and time of completion of the task; and
- Actions taken and contextual comments.

The use of a tasking log will ensure that planned operational contingencies have been executed. Tasking logs should be treated as official records and should be stored and archived appropriately to provide

information to any post-event review.

Financial Management

Due to the nature of many disaster situations, finance operations will often be conducted with compressed time constraints and other pressures, necessitating the use of non-routine procedures. This in no way lessens the requirement for sound financial management and accountability.

The LDMG should predetermine event-related financial management arrangements to ensure costs are appropriately endorsed and captured from the onset of operations.

The LDC, consultation with the LDMG Executive Team, is responsible for establishing and maintaining financial management procedures for the LDCC. Each support agency is responsible for providing their own financial services and support to its response operations relevant to their agency.

Authority to expend funds

Each participating agency should predetermine the type and limit of expenditure permitted (individual expense and cumulative expense) by their group members without further reference to senior management.

This also includes predetermining management processes for the expeditious financial authorisation of support and relief staff, as may be required.

Document management

When an event occurs, each participating agency should immediately begin accounting for personnel and equipment costs relating to disaster operations. Reimbursement is not an automatic process and requires solid evidence of disaster-related expenditure. Care and attention to detail must be taken throughout the disaster operations period to maintain logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditure (including personnel timesheets), in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justifications for future audit and potential reimbursement purposes.

The LDMG will ensure that expenditure is in line with LG procurement processes.

Disaster financial assistance arrangements

There are two sets of financial arrangements which, if activated by the Minister, provide financial support to Queensland communities impacted by a disaster event through the reimbursement of eligible expenditure:

State Disaster Relief Arrangements (SDRA)

The intent of the SDRA is to assist in the relief of communities whose social wellbeing has been severely affected by a disaster event (natural or non-natural). The SDRA is State funded, and therefore not subject to the Australian government imposed event eligibility provisions or the activation threshold that exists under the NDRRA. As a consequence, SDRA is able to address a wider range of disaster events and circumstances where personal hardship exists.

Disaster Recovery Financial Assistance (DRFA)

The intent of the DRFA is to assist the relief and recovery of communities whose social, financial and economic wellbeing has been severely affected by a disaster event.

The arrangements provide a cost sharing formula between the State and Australian Government and include a range of pre-agreed relief measures.

To claim for expenditure reimbursement under SDRA and DRFA arrangements:

- The relevant arrangements must be activated;
- The relevant relief measures must be activated and the expenditure must meet the eligibility requirements of that measure; and
- Documentary support for all eligible expenditure detailed in the claim must be provided by the claimant.

SDRA and DRFA are administered by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority more details on the funding programs administered by QRA can be found at <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/funding-programs>

RECOVERY STRATEGY

For the purpose of effective coordination aspects of recovery are conceptually grouped into four functions. It is important to acknowledge that the four functions of recovery overlap and recovery arrangements must reflect the inter-relationship between each of these functions.

Economic

Economic recovery includes renewal and growth of the micro economy (within the affected area) and the macro economy (overall economic activity of the state). Economic recovery includes individual and household entities (e.g. employment, income, insurance claims), private and government business enterprises and industry. It includes assets, production and flow of goods and services. It includes capacity for the export of goods and services from the affected region, and securing confidence of overseas markets.

Environment

Environment, or natural environment, recovery includes restoration and regeneration of biodiversity (species and plants) and ecosystems, natural resources, environmental infrastructure, amenity/aesthetics (e.g. scenic lookouts), culturally significant sites and heritage structures. It includes management of environmental health, waste, contamination and pollution and hazardous materials.

The functional lead agency for environmental recovery is Department of Environment and Resource Management.

Human-social

Human-social recovery includes personal support and information, physical health and emotional, psychological, spiritual, cultural and social well-being, public safety and education, temporary accommodation, financial assistance to meet immediate individual needs and uninsured household loss and damage.

Infrastructure (Including Roads)

Infrastructure, or built environment, recovery includes repair and reconstruction of residential and public buildings, commercial, industrial and rural buildings and structures, government structures, utility structures, systems and services (transport, water, sewerage, energy, communications) and other essential services and dam safety.

The LDMG has adopted the nationally established principles for recovery which recognise that successful recovery relies on:

- Understanding the context;
- Recognising complexity;
- Using community-led approaches;
- Ensuring coordination of all activities;
- Employing effective communication; and
- Acknowledging and building capacity.

Public Health

Maintenance of sewage, water and domestic refuse services are the responsibility of the Diamantina Shire.

Vector control is undertaken by the Diamantina Shire, these services are increased during flood events due to the increase in insect activity.

Specialist public health advice is available through Queensland Health.

EVACUATION AND EVACUATION CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Diamantina LDMG has the capacity and capability to conduct and support the evacuation of small numbers of persons from affected areas of the town to non-affected areas of the town. It is acknowledged by the LDMG and the DDMG that larger scale evacuations would require significant coordination and assistance from both District and State levels of the Disaster Management system.

Evacuation Centres

Buildings have been identified as potential evacuation centres subject to their adequate provision. The names of the Evacuation Centres will be released at the time of an event. This will eliminate miscommunication during an event.

Diamantina Shire will request bedding and other materials required from District and make them available to the shelters on their activation.

Evacuation Centre Managers

Diamantina Shire will appoint welfare centre managers for each centre in consultation with the owners of each centre. Local welfare is usually co-ordinated under the auspices of the SES, through a Welfare Officer. The managers will be responsible for welfare arrangements on a daily basis.

Duties of Evacuation Centre Managers

Evacuation Centre Managers will be responsible for the day to day operation of the Evacuation Centre. This will include:

1. Organise physical set up and adequate provision of the Evacuation Centre.
2. Be responsible for the overall co-ordination of the centre.
3. Liaise with LDCC to ensure the adequate provision of food, bedding, volunteers, access to medical treatment and any other needs of evacuees.
4. Registration of evacuees (names/address, telephone, next of kin).
5. Ensure persons with special needs are given appropriate assistance.
6. Ensure adequate feed back to LDCC regarding problems, either in respect of management of the Welfare Centre or special needs of clients.
7. Ensure information, i.e. medical, insurance, financial assistance (Govt Dept) etc is available to all people.
8. Ensure adequate records of activities and expenses are maintained.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Following an event the Local Disaster Management Group will coordinate the assessment of damage to the community and infrastructure. If specialised skills are required (Building inspections) the LDMG will request support from the District Group.

Following evacuation the LDMG will coordinate damage assessment of critical infrastructure, essential services and dwellings prior to the return phase of the evacuation operation.

CONTACT LIST

Held Separately.

- *END OF LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN* -

